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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts fo on wish to have rejected articles returned they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

#### John W. Daniel and Virginia.

Should the senior Senator from Virginia authorize or even connive at the use of his name in connection with the Democratic nomination next year all question of Mr. BRYAN would be permanently set at rest. To say that Virginians respect and admire Mr. DANIEL is to put the case inadequately. The truth is that more possessing than if it were based upon the familiar ground of affectionate confidence and esteem. JOHN W. DANIEL the unqualified admiration of his people, but he has also so appealed to their sentiment and imagination as to occupy a position wholly his own.

His services to the State, rendered at a time and under circumstances that the proud old Commonwealth. He made his record on veritable battlefields, when the stake meant more than a hundred party issues-when it involved the honor, welfare and perhaps the social salvation of Virginia, the peace, the freedom and the rescue of a generation. Virginians remember their debt to him. Gratitude has been bequeathed to them along with the liberties and the opportunities he did so much to win for them; and as they see him now, growing old in their service and poorer as regards this world's goods than he was the day he made his first appearance in the Senate, their hearts go out to him with a fervor unimpaired and with a warmth which neither time nor change will ever moderate. He has but to say the word and Virginia they have turned to account, but it looks Democrats will rally to his standard responsive to an instant impulse.

Meanwhile there is no imaginable tlanger that Virginia will be led away after the false gods of socialism. The State has had its experience of dabbling with railroad ownership and bears the burden of a public debt to-day by way of grim reminder. Mr. BRYAN made no adherents among intelligent Virginians with his Madison Square plea for Gov ernment interference and control. He merely quickened memories of bitterness and sorrow, convincing them that their sad object lesson was worth more for wisdom than all his easy academic oratory.

Even though Mr. BRYAN should suddenly eschew his heresies, recant all bygone mischief and pipe his sweetest music to the keynote of Virginia's fondest creeds, he would still be as nothing in comparison with JOHN W. DANIEL, who is loved and honored throughout the Commonwealth for what he has done. what he is, and what he may be counted on to be under any conceivable conditions. Mr. BRYAN may tickle their ears, but JOHN DANIEL holds their hearts, and the heart still cuts a figure at the South.

#### Irish Nationalists Reject the Proposed Dublin Council.

The unanimous rejection by the Nationalist convention, which was held in Dublin on Tuesday, of the Birrell bill creating a central administrative council for Ireland raises the question whether Irish Nationalists are likely any longer to cooperate with British Liberals in the House of Commons.

Mr. JOHN E. REDMOND and his colleagues are now called upon not only to oppose the Birrell bill but with all their strength to urge the Bannerman Government to introduce a measure for the establishment of an Irish Parliament with a responsible Executive, possessing jurisdiction over all purely Irish affairs. It is well known, however, that no such measure can be put forward without splitting the Liberal Cabinet, for Lord ROSEBERY'S friends, Mr. ASQUITH, Chancellor of the Exchequer: Sir EDWARD GREY, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and Mr. HALDANE. Secretary for War, have announced their determination to resign sooner than indorse any proposal even tending to the establishment of a separate Irish Legislature. Nobody knows better than Mr. JOHN E. REDMOND that under the circumstances Premier BANNERMAN, although himself a convert to home rule, cannot comply with the demand of the Irish Nationalist convention.

Does it follow that the Nationalist members of Parliament, who are alive to the predicament in which Sir H. J. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN is placed, will vote with the Unionist Opposition whenever they see a chance of defeating the present Government? In his speech on Tuesday Mr. REDMOND admitted that the Birrell bill, although inadequate, was better than Lord DUNRAVEN'S scheme had been; but even that project was rejected by the last Unionist Cabinet. How, then, is it possible to hope to secure from Unionists a concession more substantial than that embodied by the Chief

ultimate home rule improved by weak-MAN and the other avowed home rulers in the Ministry? It is possible, of course, that on his next appeal to the constituencies the present Premier may be persuaded to stake the fate of his party on the naked issue of home rule, but how can he hope to win in the teeth of the sweeping desertion by Lord ROSEBERY'S followers that would inevitably ensue? Once restored to power, the Unionists would almost certainly revert to their former intention of cutting down Ireland's representation at Westminster to a number of members strictly proportioned to her population. Would Ireland be better qualified then to exact a recog-

nition of her claim to local self-govern-

ment than she is to-day?

From the fact that Mr. JOHN E. RED-MOND was continually consulted during the elaboration of the measure we infer that personally he must have thought the Birrell bill considerably better than nothing. That the Unionists also look upon the project as involving a dangerous surrender of power is evident from the London Standard's expression of belief that had the bill become a law Ireland would not long have been habitable for Lovalists and Protestants. Why then was Mr. BIRRELL's offer repudiated by Ireland's Catholic hierarchy, which manifestly controlled the Dublin National convention? It is suggested that the prelates took offence at a provision of the feeling is something far deeper and the bill which would have placed the control of education in the hands of Catholic laymen. It was only the other day that a Nationalist Member of Parliament asserted in the Freeman's Journal has not only won the implicit faith and that the Roman Catholic Bishops seemed to distrust the Catholic laity. It is well known that most of them distrusted CHARLES STEWART PARNELL, who was a Protestant, and vigorously upheld his deposition from the leadership of the Nationalist party. That they would also eye with suspicion a measure tending to tried men's souls, make brilliant and make even Catholic laymen preponderant memorable chapters in the history of in educational affairs is, however, a new suggestion.

> The sum of the matter is that the Irish Nationalists, who aided the Liberals to gain an extraordinary victory at the ballot box, are to receive absolutely nothing for their services. By their refusal to accept the utmost that Premier BANNERMAN could give they have rendered it impossible for him to further the attainment of their principal object by flank movements and gradual approach. Henceforth "devolution" is as dead as home rule pure and simple, and the party of physical force has now plausible grounds for asserting that nothing of political importance is procurable by constitutional means. We do not hold this averment to be true, for the County Councils, which the Nationalists accepted from a Unionist Government, constitute a political boon which as if this concession might prove the last that ever will be wrung from a British Parliament.

## Light at Last on Brownsville.

A great deal of time and money would have been saved in clearing up the Brownsville mystery if PAULINO PRE-CIADO, publisher for seventeen years of El Provenir, a Mexican paper, had been produced before and induced to testify. On Monday Señor PRECIADO was a wits before the Senate committee in Washington which is trying to bring out all the facts in this celebrated case. Señor Preciado's testimony was as precise as it was startling. If it can be corroborated he should have been called first, months ago: the raid occurred on the night of August 13-14, 1906.

Señor Preciado's importance as the publisher of El Provenir pointed to him as a witness whose visual and mental experience on the night of the outrage upon a peace loving town was indispensable to a coherent report of what had occurred. His faculties were quickened by a flesh wound on the hand; he was in imminent deadly peril; it was peremptorily the duty of everybody concerned in an investigation of the raid to spread his story upon the record.

Señor PRECIADO is the only person. with the exception of the dead bartender FRANK NATOUS, who, open eyed and at close range under the converging light of lamps, recognized positively the murderers as negro soldiers. Hence the supreme value of his testimony. At the time, about midnight, so Señor PRECIADO told the Senate committee on Monday he was seated in the courtvard of the Ruby saloon belonging to one TILLMAN. Firing was heard in the street. A saloon keeper on the other side of the way uttered the warning cry: "Close up! Here come the niggers!" NATOUS sprang to the gate of the courtyard. The raiders surged in and fired point blank at NATOUS. He fell dead. One ball clipped the publisher of El Provenir on the hand, and another ball pierced his coat and vest. ripped open some papers in a pocket, and smashed his folded spectacles. The light of three lamps streamed down on the raiders, and before Senor Preciado turned to fiee for his life-TILLMAN had already gone-he saw unmistakably that the murderers were negro soldiers. At the time a distance of only twelve paces

This is explicit and amazing testimony explicit because there is no means of combating it, unless an alibi is proved for the publisher of El Provenir; amazing because it is volunteered or produced for the first time. From the ex parte evidence taken by the citizens' committee at Brownsville on August 14 and included in "The Reply of the President of the United States to Senate Resolution Dated December 6, 1906," the deposition of Senor Preciado is missing. It would have been a triumph for Brownsville and a trump card for the President. Why was it withheld, and why does it come out now nine months after the tragic event? We confess bewilderment. A possible solution is that Senor PRECIApo's evidence was suppressed to be used

separated him from them.

The effect on Senator FORAKER and others who maintained that no case had CHANDLER's veracity. It was not pleasbeen made out against the soldiers of the ant giving the lie to an old comrade, and dismissed battalion can be imagined. I to divert his mind the President decided Only corroboration of the statement of to make a magazine article of his railroad

Secretary for Ireland in the measure now the publisher of El Provenir is now needed readings of the Irish sagas. The fruits THE UNITED STATES OF CENrejected? How are the prospects of to terminate the Senate investigation of that dash into a fascinating literature and release the investigators. Belated ening the prestige of Premier Banner- though it be, Senor Preciado seems to be without. have rendered an inestimable service to the public.

### Not on the Blotter.

Commissioner BINGHAM has been able to isolate one case in which the municipal police apparently were used to obtain evidence for a man contemplating a civil action. He promises to investigate it thoroughly, and there is no reason to believe that the powerful influences which will be used to head him off will be successful. Mr. BINGHAM is not particularly submissive to the sort of arguments that will be advanced to induce him to overlook this shameless abuse of police authority.

It is quite improbable that the Commissioner will be able to bring to light all of the police activities that are not entered on the blotter, but if in this notorious case he is able to punish the wrongdoers, unquestionably he will put an end to many oppressive practices. It is obvious that a policeman acting as a bill collector has powers of persuasion not possessed by the ordinary dun, and the fact has not been overlooked by anxious creditors with a pull. A policeman is potent, too, in convincing a suitor in the civil courts that he should drop his action and not annoy the person against whom he has a claim. Nor is a peace officer at any disadvantage when he asks the holder of a compromising document to surrender it to the man whom it might injure. A policeman willing to put his official authority at the disposal of a private person for private purposes may accomplish many things that the mere citizen could not do.

The police station blotters do not tell the whole story of police activity. Commissioner BINGHAM has found that one of his detectives spent three days in Baltimore recently "looking for a murderer," and there is no record at Headquarters of this trip to the south. There reason to hope that this enterprising thieftaker may pay for his neglect to make due and regular report of his goings and comings, and that the superior who directed his movements may not escape reproof. The punishment of these worthies might do something to curtail nondepartmental excursions by the police, and thus correct, in a measure, an old and highly objectionable abuse.

### Mr. Cortelyou.

At the dinner given last evening in his honor by his former fellow workers in the Post Office Department, George BRUCE CORTELYOU gave unconscious evidence of the qualities that have contributed to cause his remarkable rise in the public service from the place of stenographer to the post of Secretary of the Treasury. He was frank and honest; he did not trim or equivocate. He declared his belief in party organization and his adherence to the theory that party workers deserve rewards in the form of public office, when their fitness is demonstrated. Nor does Mr. CORTELYOU believe that a placeholder's whole duty is done when he has accomplished his official stint satisfactorily:

"In many cases a postmaster is the only repre sentative of the national Government in a community. Through this relation his sphere as citizen is broadened and his obligations are increased. How important it is, then, that he should not only keep a model office, but that his influence in his community should be thrown upon the side -whether they be typified in the person of a President or Governor or Mayor or other constituted authority who is fighting the battles of good citizenship. He should represent the best there is in the life of his community, and here in this great Empire State of ours there has been no opportunity greater than the present for the exhibition of these qualities, for the exertion of this influence."

Aside from any direct political signif icance in this paragraph so plainly directed to various Federal job holders in these parts, it contains a revelation of Mr. CORTELYOU'S self. He has not stopped when he finished the task set for him. He has not been content merely to do well. He has done his best, more than was bargained for, wherever he has been placed. He did this as stenographer in the Post Office Department, as stenographer, assistant secretary and secretary to the President, as Postmaster-General, as chairman of the Republican national committee, and to-day he is doing the same thing as Secretary of the Treasury That is not the least of the reasons why Mr. CORTELYOU is one of the most interesting figures in public life to-day.

# In a Leisure Hour.

The President's literary fecundity and restless industry were never more wonderfully illustrated than by the account that now leaks out of how he came to produce for the information of his countrymen his famous magazine article upon the Irish sagas.

It appears that only a short time before he plunged into the subject pen in hand he had gone through "a pile of books dealing with ancient Irish tradition," which was the solace of a railroad journey in the West. Dr. MAURICE FRANCIS EGAN of Washington, to whom the President has now offered the choice of the missions to Denmark and Portugal. was his inspiration in Irish literature and supplied him with the books. There is a rumor that a nurse in the Roosevelt. family who told bedtime stories to the children first interested the President in the sagas, but it is probably apocryphal. However that may be, the President digested the pile of books brought

to the train and was delighted. If the narrative ended here it would be striking enough, for the picture of a President losing touch with grave concerns of State in swift review of the treasures of Irish folklore, while the telegraph poles fled ghostly past the windows of his parlor car, is a picture that has a strong biographical value. But there is more. Later on Mr. ROOSEVELT became involved in a controversy with ex-Senator WILLIAM E. CHANDLER and Senator TILLMAN upon the point whether he had made a coalition with the Senate minority to pass the railroad rate bill, in the course of which controversy he impugned Mr.

the world now has and would not willingly

There is no end to Rooseveltiana and the last story is always the best. What would the President's admirers not give to have the veil lifted a little higher, and to know what literary distractions he has attempted on the other regrettable occasions when he was obliged to post as prevaricators those persons of good or bad eminence who crossed him, wronged him or distorted his policy.

The chest mattress and head helmet which are the usual equipment of umpires behind the bat furnish inadequate protection against contingencies at the Polo Grounds. A mediaval suit of armor should be provided, and on occasions of unwonted public excitement a full set of cheyaux de frise might be added.

Memories of Andalusian days doubtless ecount for this rhapsody on the "summer girl" by the gallant WATTERSON:

" She is the supreme poem of summer. The plake that smiles through her peek-a-boo, the airiness about her that makes her seem of the ether herself. the delicacy that pervades her whole makeup—these transform her into a sonnet."

In a season so backward and chill the Colonel cannot interest the American people in visions of the summer sonnet girl of his fancy. They call upon him, instead, to produce his Democratic candidate "who does not live east of the Alleghanies or south of the Potomac or Ohio."

The geologists of sixteen States have been conferring with the officials of the United States Geological Survey at Washington this week with reference to cooperative work in the field. Last year, also, sixteen States cooperated with the Federal survey. It has been noteworthy in recent years that in the Eastern half of the country the survey goes forward most rapidly in those States whose Legislatures contribute most liberally to cooperate with the Federal

The general Government pushes the work in the Western mining regions whether or not State aid is extended. This is proper for the development of our mining interests is much facilitated by accurate surveys. It is also natural that the survey should go forward most rapidly in those States east of the Mississippi that evince the largest interest in having their area surveyed and mapped. They show this interest by contributing to pay the expenses.

Thus, last year the largest amount of topographic mapping carried out in any one State was in Ohio, where liberal appropriations had been made for cooperative surveys. The gross area mapped there was more than 3,000 square miles, or nearly one-tenth of the area that we are now annually covering with completed topographic surveys. Larger amounts of Federal funds are being expended in those States that are cooperating most liberally, and thus the mapping of their areas is expedited.

The result is that the survey is temporarily retarded in States that are not ready to do their part. When the work is completed in the States that are helping, there will probably be more Federal money for expenditure elsewhere.

Our topographic surveys are really making very rapid progress. They extend as yet over only a little more than a third of our domain, but this is because we cover so large a part of the great out of doors.

#### A Lamented Versifier. From the Omaha World-Herald.

The esteemed Kansas City Post prints appre istively a beautiful little ode "To the Night which, it informs its readers, was "Written by P. B. Shelley in THE NEW YORK SUN. The delicate beauty and fanciful imagery of this gem produced by THE SUN's contribu tor is certain, we believe, to win it the hearty approbation not of the Post alone but of the its environs. The fact that the Post so promptly reproduces it shows in itself that true art has its lovers in Kansas City. The fact that it is frankly credited to THE SUN proves that Kansas City has no disposition to pilfer the credit for the ode, thereby rising superior to less scrupulous communities that tried, not so long ago, to claim for local talent the authorship of that other sublime ode yclept "Beautiful Snow."

Swiftly walk over the western wave, Spirit of Night! Out of the misty eastern cave Where, all the long and lone daylight,

Thou wovest dreams of joy and fear Which make thee terrible and dear Swift be thy flight! This is but a fragment. It serves to indi cate though, the superb qualities of the

The World-Herald is sure that the Post, together with all the lovers of literature who make Kansas City their home, will be inexpressibly grieved to learn that young Mr. Shelley, the author of this ode, was drowned recently in the Bay of Naples. Had he lived. judging from the promise shown so early in life, he would no doubt have won for himself a place high in the world of letters.

#### Judge Cohen and the Recount Bill. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Permit me

to call your attention to a misstatement in a letter of your Albany correspondent. I had nothing whatever to do with drafting the recount bill now before the Legislature. The mistake probably arose from the fact that, with the assistance of other gentlemen, I did draw a general recount bill, which was introduced during the session of 1906. provisions applied to the future only; it had no possible bearing on any past election NEW YORK, May 17. WILLIAM N. COREN.

## The Teachers and the Ballot.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: THE SUN SUGgests that the passage of the teachers' equal pay bill over the Mayor's veto proves that women do not need a vote—that their indirect influence is just as effective. To some of us the whole affair seems striking lijustration of the contrary.

Consider how long and hard the teachers have had to work for this bill, and how much ridicule and abuse they have had to endure in the effort to get it. If the estimate is correct that it will cost the city \$9,000,000 a year more la salaries, then in the last ten years the fact that they had no vote has cost the women teachers of New York \$90,000,000 in cold cash. During all these years, in the equal suffrage States, the women teachers were getting equal pay with the men when they did the same work, and there is no record that they even had to petition for it. Being constituents, they were looked out for without labor or trouble on their own part. Nobody denies that women can often get legis

lation by "indirect influence," but the indirect way is needlessly long and hard. If women were for-bidden to use the railroad across the continent and complained of the injustice, it would be no answer to tell them that they could get from New York to San Francisco by going around Cape Horn. Yet every time that women succeed in navigating some piece of desired legislation around Cape Horn and finally bring it to port, after ten times the time and a thousand times the labor that it would have cost them by the direct route, somebody who has taken no part in the struggle always cries, "There! That proves that women have no need to use the rall-road." ALICE STONE BLACKWELL.

### DORCHESTEE, Mass., May 21. The Secret.

Jack the Giant Killer donned his invisible coat. "How unnecessary," they protested. "Just be ome a bridegroom and nobody will see you. Accepting the advice, he was immediately lost

> Contrariwise. Of all glad words of tongue and pen. The saying to reverse.
> The gladdest are, "It might have been
> It might have been much worse,"

# TRAL AMERICA.

WASHINGTON, May 21 .- Again there come report of plans for a unification of the republics of Central 'America. , That such a movement is in process there can be no doubt. It is nothing new. The revolution of 1821 gave birth to the Republic of Central America, which lasted practically until 1839, when internal dissensions, resulted in its dissolution. Numerous attempts, most of them feeble and hopeless, have since been made to reestablish the confederacy. All have failed and the fundamental cause of failure has probably been the same in all cases.

The weakness of the various attempts to create a union or a confeneracy in Central America is found in mutual distrust. Where there is no confidence there can be no harmony, and "every kingdom divided agains" itself is brought to desolation." Political distrust is general in Central America. I obtains in material affairs and leads to revolutions. It obtains in international affairs and causes war between the nations It is less marked to-day than it was twentyfive years ago, but it still exists with a force that makes any form of unification an exceedingly doubtful experiment.

Such a plan, if it could be brought to successful issue, would unquestionably be the best possible experience for Central America. The total area of the five republics closely approximates that of the New England States, New York, New Jersey Pennsylvania and Delaware. It is abou one-tenth larger than Galifornia. The total population is about 4.500,000, or a little more than that of Ohio and a little less than that of Illinois. The foreign trade of all combined is about \$55,000,000, and the national debts of all, foreign and internal, amount to approximately \$150,000,000, about twothirds of which stands to the account of Honduras. There is a general correspondence of racial elements. From racial geographic and economic points of view these States belong together. There is almost everything in favor of their union

and almost nothing against it. Some day they may get together. It is, however, doubtful if the combination will be effected at any early time, and it is even more doubtful whether such a combination, if made under present conditions, would last long enough to celebrate an anniver-The experiment might be worth a trial if it can be brought to a trial. A man or a group of men of the type of José Zelaya or Polycarpo Bonilla might be able to bring these States into a combination, but it would probably need a man of the Diaz type to hold them together.

### A DECISION FOR FLAT DWELLERS.

A decision has just been rendered by Judge Lauer, sitting in the Twelfth District Municipal Court, in a test case to determine whether a enant can recover damages from a landlord for failure to supply steam heat when the tenant does not abandon possession of the premises. Judge Lauer has held that the plaintiff was entitled to \$100 damages. The case, which is entitled Jackson vs. Paterno, will in all probability be appealed.

The plaintiff leased a certain suite in an apartment house. The lease contained no specific provision for the supply of heat, but the Court finds that such provision is to be implied on all leases of this kind. The Court also finds as a fact that the supply of heat was inadequate and would have justified the tenant in moving and claiming a constructive eviction. Although the tenant failed to move, the decision holds that he is nevertheless entitled to substantial damages.

Judge Lauer reasons as follows The defendant advances the proposition that no damages are recoverable by the plaintiff because there was no actual or constructive eviction. She assumes there was no constructive eviction because in order to make a constructive eviction effective a party must have vacated the demised premises. She, however, loses sight of the fact that an actual eviction may be either from the whole or from a substantial part of the demised premises, and I think that an adequate supply of heat may properly be considered in this case a substantial part of the demised premises and that it must be held that there was an actual eviction by the landlord of the tenant from a substantial part of the premises under the lease in question. (Slegel vs. Neary, 38 Misc., 297, 301; Hall vs. Irwin, 78 A. D., 107, 110-112). There is therefore, according to the view which I entertain. no reason why the plaintiff should not recover damages in this action for a breach of the covenant

ord has deprived him of heat. In other words Judge Lauer stretches the doctrine of partial constructive eviction so far as to hold that heat, in and of itself, is a part of the premises leased. The cases he cites deal with a deprivation of physical posession and are to that extent distinguishable Whether this rather fanciful theory will be sustained by the Appellate Term and the higher tribunals of this State is indeed quesionable. Meanwhile, however, tenants may feel that they have won a preliminary victory and that if the judgment is affirmed they will in future have the right to obtain damages against their landlords without being compelled to vacate the premises.

### The Mississippi Worthy of the President's Attention.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I read rith much pleasure President Roosevelt's letter in regard to the improvement of the Mississippi River. I am not a very ardent admirer of the President, but I offer my little pean of praise, and say that in dealing with a subject of so vast importance as that great national waterway the President is better employed than even with spelling reform or race suicide.

BROOKLYN, May 20.

#### The Exiled Staten Islander. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The Constable

Hook fumes have lately driven me from Staten Island, and many another unfortunate individual, too, I have little doubt. If the inhabitants of that otherwise delightful little island would only add a nulsance committee to their noise committee, which, by the way, doesn't seem to have made much head way, they would find their population increase. t was a relief to take a subway train on this side and hear that familiar command, of which no one ever takes the slightest notice, "Step lively." There s something homelike, if idiotic, about that phrase. and to hear the words shouted out in such a cour-teous manner stirs one to the very vitals. No one ever hears this on the Staten Island boats. My experience further was that the officials are always

polite on that route.

Rather different to a guard on the subway, who on my taking up a newspaper which my neighbor on my taking up a newspaper when my neighbor had discarded on leaving, came up and said: "Here, why don't you buy yourown papers? These papers belong to the company." This was too much even for my patience, and I fancy he suffered for his Impertinence. Still, I had rather go through this experience and breathe the anything but pure air of the subway than be asphyxiated by the fumes from Constable Hook. So to drop into verse:

Good-by, S. I. NEW YORK, May 21. PEREGRINATOR.

#### From 11.2 Mount Vernon Fountain and Journal. A citizen of Douglas county brought to the office of an Ava paper what is said to be called by the Indians a tuckahoe. It was turned up by the plough. It is a singular vegetable substance, selom found except in the southern lowlands of the United States. It grows under the ground and metimes attains the size and somewhat the appearance of a loaf of bread and is often called Indian loaf," or "Indian bread."

It is said that its methods of growth and reprouction are unknown, it having neither root, branch nor cellular structure, for which reason it has been onsidered as a secondary product, caused by the degeneration of the tissues of some flowering plant.
It was eaten by the Indians and considered by them a very dainty dish.

The Way of It. Knicker-How is the Administration run? Bocker-Taft is supposed to do all the good things, and Loeb all the bad things. Decidedly So.

Knicker - What do you think is the saddest word f tongue of pen?

# CHRISTIAN SCIENCE FAITH

A TOTAL STATE OF THE STATE OF

Utterly Irrational or Justified by Scripture, According to the Point of View. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Thanks are due to "Anti-Humbug" for his letter in THE SUN refuting the dishonest Christian

cience claim to a low death rate. When I say dishonest I do not mean that Christian Scientists are consciously or intenionally so; for, however willing one may be to deceive others, it is incredible that one should be willing to deceive one's self. There can be little if any doubt that Christian Scientists are satisfied with arguments that excite the contempt or anger of reasoning men. Nor are they capable of such fallacious reasoning because they are Christian Scientists, but rather they are Christian Scientists and illogical because of some peculiar mental idiosyncrasy.

Would it not be incredible, were we not daily witnesses of the phenomenon, that same men and women should believe they had convinced themselves, and endeavor to convince others that the facts of human experience can be ullified by negation or essentially changed by a change in language?

Does not this fallacy underlie all Christian

Science "reasoning" and conduct? If in their opinion the nature of such phenomena as opinion the nature of such phenomena as death is not changed by a change in terms, why repudiate the word "death" and substitute therefor the words "passing cut"? Are Christian Scientists exempt from sickness, death and dissolution because they disoredit these phenomena by other terms? Yet even a Christian Scientist will not deny that that cessation of all the vital functions which is followed by dissolution and which we call "death" does actually take place. If he did we should regard him as a jester or a madman, and in neither case would we attempt to reason with him.

son with him.

I would not appeal to the "reason" of that Christian Scientist woman of my acquaintance who discourages an elderly suitor because of his age, but who as a Christian Beientist disapproves of Yeaks's beautiful rendering of Konsard's lines; When you are old and gray.

When you are old and gray, because Christian Science teaches "we never grow old."

Academic reasoning of this kind may be amusing; but that its application to the practical affairs of life may be disastrous we have abundant proof.

No: Christian Scientists are not likely, in the words of a critic, "to call a halt on their interpretations"; that is a task for the police power of the State, and the sooner that power is exercised to that end the better.

New York, May 22.

F. D.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It is safe to presume that most of the members of the general run of American juries accept

with no question the main proposition on which the Hebrew Bible and the Christian supplement rest—that there exists an all powerful God who governs this world. Believing this, no man can logically assert that any human endeavor could thwart the purposes of the Almighty. How then could ar American jury censure a Christian Scientist for failing to procure medical aid for an

invalid?

As I understand it, the Christian Scientist takes the stand that God's will must in any case be done; and that while prayer and supplication may properly be employed in an endeavor to influence the purpose of the Deity, the attempt to change this divinely ordained purpose by means of drugs or other human expedients is useless and implous.

Granting the truth of the dogma of an omnipotent God, the Christian Science contention would seem sound.

omnipotent God, the Christian Science contention would seem sound.

I am not myself a Christian Scientist. If II were ill I should ask the physician's aid. The point I wish to make is that if a juror is a professing Christian or Hebrew he cannot consistently blame a Christian Scientist for his obedience to the teachings of the Old and the New Testament.

RICHMOND HILL, May 21.

Municipal Ownership Failures. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A few days ago the Chicago City Railway Company gave the General Electric Company an order for 571,200 tr horse-power of motors to equip 300 cars. The defeat of the Dunne municipal ownership folly brought this big order.

Even in street cleaning municipal ownership has failed in Indianapolis. The city hired for the seaon April to November twenty-eight mules, worth \$5,925, at a rental of \$4,825, or within \$1,560 of the value of the snimals.

Under municipal ownership of several utilities the debt of the city of London has increased \$225 000.

600, and the new Council has had to float a loan of \$35,000,000 to finance a deficit. At Lakewood, Ohio, an expert accountant found that the cost of the city owned are lamps to or rate was double the price asked by a private company.

Casselton, N. D., has sold its municips, electric

plant for two-fifths of its original cost La Grange, Ill., has sold its municipal plant to a

Alexandria, Va., has leased its plant for thirty The bondholders of the municipal plant at Jonesboro, Ind., have taken over the plant to save themselves.

At Ashtabula, Ohlo, the \$88,000 municipal plant has depreclated \$50,000 in fourteen years and is of quiet enjoyment, in so far as the act of the landadvertised for sale. Linton, Ind., has leased its plant for five years. At Grand Rapids, Mich., street lighting, which

costs the city \$21,186 a year to do for itself, can be done by a private company for \$14,964, saving the city \$6,162 a year. The city's manager urges abandonment of the city's plant and acceptance of the private company's offer. The city's plant cost

East Grand Forks, Minn., lost its electric light plant by fire on March 22 last. Citizens voted not to rebuild, as the plant had been a "creature of deficits and disappointments," says Public Service. Contract for lighting is being made with the loca Girard, Ill., finds that its municipal electric plant

has run twenty-two months at a loss of \$1.917 This deficit is after deducting \$2,904 as the value of the street lighting.

A special committee at Camden, N. J., reports against municipal ownership of an electric plant.

The report brings out a fact not generally known namely, that in the last ten years private lighting companies have reduced their charges one-third. Fredonia, N. Y., has shut off the street ligh by its own plant. It and the water department are Colorado City, Col., voted two to one April 2 not

to build an electric plant at a cost of \$30,000. Colorado Springs. Col., voted on April 2 to build me pole line covering about one-sixth of the city without making provision for a generating plant. An official investigating committee of Winchester, Mass., reported January 14, 1907, as follows: "The committee are unanimously of opinion that the town at this time should not undertake control any municipal lighting plant, nor should it, in the opinion of this committee, engage in the manufacture or distribution either of gas for municipal use or for the use of its inhab

Sloux City, Ia., has a small wornout electric lighting plant in the basement of the new public library building. Its abandonment and contract with a private company is proposed. The City Council of Weston, Canada, by formal motion requested the press not to publish a certain

report showing that the municipal plant which cos \$9,725 is now only worth \$5,254. Paw Paw, Mich., has a municipal electric plant which had a deficit last year of \$1,100. In Baltimore on April 2, at the party primary elections, a municipal ownership candidate received only 9 per cent. of the votes cast.

Paris, France, has decided to lease the city's gar plant to a private company for operation.

Failures of American municipal electric plants
are on record for Alexandria, Va.: Bay City, Mich.; Beverly, Ohio; Blanchester, Ohio; Blo Wi.; Blue Island, Ill.; Carthage, Mo.; Charlotte Mich.; Chicago, Ill.; Columbus, Obio: Easton, Pa. Escanaba, Mich.; Fairfield, Ia.; Galena, Ill.; Harvard, Ill.; Herrington, Kan.; Kirkwood, Mo.; Lake-wood, Ohio; Lansing, Mich.; Lincoin, Neb.; Lo-gansport, Ind.; Madison, N. J.; Mason, Mich.; Middleboro, Mass.; Middletown, Pa.; Mohawk, N. Y.; Muncie, Ind.; Nashville, Ark.; Norwich, Conn.; Peabody, Mass.; Prairie City.

Conn.: Peabody, Mass.; Prairie City, 111.; Richmond. ind.; St. Charles, Mo.; Springfield, Ill.; Sleepy Eye Minn.; Tecumseh, Neb., and Topeka, Kan. Municipal gas failures include Beliefontaine, Ohio: Escanaba, Mich.: Hamilton, Ohio: Madison, N. J.: Middleboro, Mass.; Norwich, Conn.; Richmond, Va. Santa Clara, Cal., and Wheeling, W. Va. Walter J. Baller.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., May 16. Satisfactory Pinancial Condition

From the Springfield Republican. It is believed that the oldest charity fund, apart from hospitals, which is still maintained is the royal maternity charity with headquarters in London which was founded in 1757 and has just celebrate its third jubilee. Its finances were reported satis-factory except for its debts.

Empress a Poet.

From the Bystander. Haru-Ko, the wife of the Mikado, is not only of woman of great intelligence and erudition but a poeters of talent; she will certainly take her place in the literary history of her country. Every Japa-nese child knows her poetry by heart, and on all the important events of the reign she has written

### PLAGUE OF GRASSHOPPERS.

The Transvaal and Orange River Colony Eaten Up by Myriads of Insects. The Transvaal and the Orange River colony have been suffering all the spring from a plague of grasshoppers which began in March and which has stripped countless miles of forest and farm land bare of every leaf, bud or green sprout. The first record of the visitation comes from Johannesberg. where early in March a devastating cloud

of insects swept over the country. Suddenly at faidday to the south of the city the sun was darkened. The inhabitants prepared for one of the fierce thunderstorms that sometimes rage in the Rand. But there was no lightning visible and no wind. Old timers speedily guessed what was coming, but their idea had no time to get into circulation when the storm burst, a storm of myriads of big brown grasshoppers which filled the air covered the ground and eat up every particle of vegetaon almost in an instan

Women shricking and hysterical fought the swarms that settled on them with parasols and handkerchiefs. Men used sticks and branches of trees, some trying frantically to beat the destroyers away from their fields and gardens with about as much success as if one tried to keep the tide out with a mop. At last every one rushed for cover, but the grasshoppers found their way in through cracks under doors, by way of ventilators and down the chimneys, until smoking fires of logs and hay were made in the hearths.

Outside conditions became indescribable. The visitants were the flying, brown grasshopper, the most destructive of all. No imagination could grasp their numbers. The path of flight extended from Gemiston to Krugersdorf and the sky saw almost as black as at night, but with a murky brown color, while the houses, trees, rocks fields, streets became covered with layer on layer like snowflakes turned brown.

Those that settled down seemed to remain while other myriads flew on. Wagons and automobiles could hardly make heariway over the layers of insects that they crushed under their wheels with a crackling noise. Trains had to stop as the tracks became slippery. Street car lines had to go out of business and some of the cars could not be held by the brakes and backed down Hospital hill, one knocking over a can near the foot.

It took the whole cloud of insects five hours to pass over the city. They left a scene of desolation behind them so far as vegetation is concerned as if the region had been swept by fire. What is more, the thousands that settled died in a few hours and the decay of the great mass poisoned the air for days in spite of every hygienic precaution that could be taken.

Last year the Transvaal is said to have suffered more than \$600,000 loss from swarms of grasshoppers. This year the conditions are still worse. Reports of disastrous visitations come in from all quarters and it is feared the losses will be greatly increased.
At Bloemfontein, in the Orange River Colony,
a flight of grasshoppers thirteen miles long
by eight broad swept over the country,
leaving nothing in the leaving nothing in the way of herb, shrub or tree behind it.

There is no way of making head against

the plague when the grasshoppers are developed. Efforts are made to prevent them rom hatching from the larve by using arsenic spray in places where their presence is suspected. In this case, however, the source is practically beyond reach. It is believed that the swarms come from the great Kalahari desert in Bechuanaland. This is a region hardly ever visited by rain and as the laws of the grasshopper reand as the larvæ of the grasshoppers require a combination of heat and moisture to hatch out they have probably lain quiescent there for years, each year increasing in numbers from new deposits. In the last two years there have been unusually heavy rainfalls in South Africa, which no doubt have extended to the desert and so given life to the millions upon millions of eggs stored up in it. up in it.

## The "Green Fairy" in Switzerland.

From the London Globe. In Switzerland May Day was historic, at least for the Canton Vaud. There came into operation on that day a law which may exercise beneficent long after the tumultuc which the day is becoming the occasion are for gotten.

Some time since the Cantonal Legislature passed an act with the popular approval for prohibiting the retail sale of absinthe, and with the expiry of April 30 it came into effect. But the retailers-that is, the café and restaurant keepers-yield only a half loyalty to the new law. Many of them we giving the drink gratis to customers, "just to clear off stock," and it was observed that many men drank absinthe for the occasion who had never been seen to touch it before. As closing time approached the "green fairy" was "buried "with much hilarious mock funeral ceremony.

Evasion is already at work. As the act only prohibits sale, a number of victuallers are propos-ing to present known customers with a drink of absinthe a day gratis, just to keep old customers "in the house." But it is more than doubtful whether such a procedure would not be regarded as illegal.

## Brastic Rules for Vienna School Children

Vienna correspondence Pall Mall Gazette. Recently the Vienna police arrested a youthful hand of thieves and pickpockets, boys and girls ranging in age from 11 to 16. Investigation showed that stealing was one of the least of their delinquencles when compared with the appalling conditions of vice and immorality found to be existing among these children of the streets.

The State education authorities decided that

prompt measures must be taken to check the evil-disclosed, and as a first step they have ordered that no school children will be allowed on the public streets after 9 o'clock at night unless they are accompanied by adults. Also, the school teachers have received strict injunctions to watch over the morals and behavior of the children most vigilantly. and to report any suspicious circumstances to the courts of guardianship, which will then make the necessary investigations.

#### Painting for President Diaz. From the Mexican Herald.

With a simple but impressive ceremony President Diaz was presented Saturday with the military painting portraying the action of his command is the battle of Puebla against the French forces in the war of the invasion. The painting, which was the work of the artist Francisco de P. Mendera, a professor in the national school of fine arts and of the military college, was executed at the request of the Governors of twelve Mexican States, and was presented as a personal gift to the Chief Magistrate The painting represented Gen. Diaz in action in the porious battle which won fame for the Maxican orces, and at the moment when the forces under the direct command of Gen. Diaz saved the day.

#### Blessing the Crops. From the London Standard.

The interesting custom, dating from the fifth century, of blessing the crops was carried out yes-terday at Edburton, a Sussex hamlet near the South Down:

The rector, accompanied by nearly 100 parish loners, took up a position in the open on the side of the downs, and a reverent and impressive service was held, the blessing of the Almighty being in-voked upon the crops and an appeal being made for an abundant harvest. The service concluded with the hymn "We Plaugh the Fields," which was

#### First Rural Route Mail Carrier. From the Columbus Pispatch.

Claiming the distinction of being the arst men n the United States who ever carried a rural mail oute, E. P. Wright, who resides on the Jackson pike, in Franklin township, is still employed in the mail service, carrying R. F. D. No. 3 from the South Columbus branch station C.

Hale and hearty at the age of three score and ten Mr. Wright makes his daily trips and has to his credit fifty-five years in Uncle Sam's service.

# Considerate Robbers.

From the Korea Dally News. A letter from the south says that a number of obber bands have posted notices buside the road saying that as the people are trying to pay off the public debt it will be a shameful thing if any more robbery is committed and they aftirm that the